Amendment to the Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A bookmark having an integrated electronic timer circuit for tracking reading times for individuals, comprising:

a substrate;

a header integral with the substrate, the header including a time display and control panel, the time display having two digits for a first time readout and two digits for a second time readout, the control panel having a plurality of control buttons for starting time and stopping time and reversing counting direction; and

an electronic timer circuit housed within the header for receiving commands from the control panel and providing a timer signal to the time display, the electronic timer circuit including,

(a) an oscillator for generating a clock signal,

(b) a timer receiving the clock signal to count elapsed time, the timer being configurable to track incremental times and cumulative times,

(c) a memory circuit coupled to the timer for storing the incremental and cumulative times,

(d) a control interface having an input coupled to the control panel on the header and an output coupled to the timer, wherein the control interface receives commands to start time and stop time and reverse counting direction,

(e) an audible alarm coupled to the timer for announcing a time sequence, and

(f) a display interface having an input coupled to the timer and an output coupled to the time display on the header.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently amended) The bookmark of claim 1 ~~2~~, wherein at least one of the plurality of control buttons is disposed on a side portion of the header.

4. (Original) The bookmark of claim 1, further including a sensor for sensing an external condition and controlling the electronic timer circuit in response thereto.

5. (Original) The bookmark of claim 1, further including a light source disposed on the header.

6. (Original) The bookmark of claim 1, further including a magnifying viewing port disposed within the substrate.

7. (Original) The bookmark of claim 1, further including a clip coupled to the bookmark.

8. (Original) The bookmark of claim 1, further including a string extending from the bookmark for marking a book.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently amended) A bookmark~~, comprising:~~ having a substrate portion~~,~~ and a header portion integral with the substrate portion, the header portion ~~including an electronic timer,~~ comprising:

a time display having two digits for a first time readout

and two digits for a second time readout;

a control panel having a plurality of control buttons for starting time and stopping time and reversing counting direction; and

an electronic timer including,

(a) an oscillator for generating a clock signal,

(b) a timer receiving the clock signal to count elapsed time, the timer being configurable to track incremental times and cumulative times,

(c) a memory circuit coupled to the timer for storing the incremental and cumulative times,

(d) a control interface having an input coupled to the control panel on the header and an output coupled to the timer, wherein the control interface receives commands to start time and stop time and reverse counting direction,

(e) an audible alarm coupled to the timer for announcing a time sequence, and

(f) a display interface having an input coupled to the timer and an output coupled to the time display on the header.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently amended) The bookmark of claim 10 ~~11~~, wherein at least one of the plurality of control buttons is disposed on a side of the header portion.

13. (Original) The bookmark of claim 10, further including a sensor for sensing an external condition and controlling the electronic timer in response thereto.

14. (Original) The bookmark of claim 10, further including a light source.

15. (Original) The bookmark of claim 10, further including a magnifying viewing port disposed within the substrate portion.

16-23. (Cancelled)

24. (Currently amended) A method of making a bookmark with an integrated electronic timer, comprising:

forming a substrate;

forming a header integral with the substrate, wherein the header includes a cavity;

forming a time display on the header, the time display having two digits for a first time readout and two digits for a second time readout;

forming a control panel on the header, the control panel having a plurality of control buttons for starting time and stopping time and reversing counting direction;

disposing an electronic timer within the cavity of the header, the electronic timer including,

(a) an oscillator for generating a clock signal,

(b) a timer receiving the clock signal to count elapsed time, the timer being configurable to track incremental times and cumulative times,

(c) a memory circuit coupled to the timer for storing the incremental and cumulative times,

(d) a control interface having an input coupled to the control panel on the header and an output coupled to the timer, wherein the control interface receives commands to start time and

stop time and reverse counting direction, and

(e) a display interface having an input coupled to the timer; and

electrically coupling an output of the display interface of the electronic timer to ~~a~~ the time display on the header.

25. (Currently amended) The method of claim 24, further including the step of providing ~~a plurality of control buttons on the header for controlling the electronic timer~~ an alarm within the electronic timer for announcing a time sequence.

26. (Original) The method of claim 24, further including the step of providing a light source disposed on the bookmark.

27. (Original) The method of claim 24, further including the step of providing a magnifying viewing port disposed within the substrate.

28. (Currently amended) The method of claim 24, ~~wherein the electronic timer includes a memory for storing a timer count value~~ further including the step of disposing a sensor on the substrate for sensing an external condition and controlling the electronic timer circuit in response thereto.

29-32. (Cancelled)

33. (Currently amended) A marking device for marking a book and tracking reading time, comprising:

a bookmark having an interior housing;

an electronic timer circuit disposed within the interior

housing of the bookmark for counting a count value, the electronic timer circuit including,

(a) an oscillator for generating a clock signal,

(b) a timer receiving the clock signal to count elapsed time,

(c) a control interface having an input and having an output coupled to the timer, and

(d) a display interface having an input coupled to the timer;

a control panel disposed on the bookmark for controlling the electronic timer, the control panel having a plurality of control buttons coupled to the input of the control interface for starting time and stopping time and reversing counting direction; and

a time display disposed on the bookmark and electrically coupled to an output of the display interface of the electronic timer for displaying the count value, the time display having two digits for a first time readout and two digits for a second time readout.

34. (Currently amended) The marking device of claim 33, wherein ~~the control panel includes a plurality of control buttons for controlling the electronic timer~~ the electronic timer further includes an alarm for announcing a time sequence.

35. (Original) The marking device of claim 33, further including a light source disposed on the bookmark.

36. (Original) The marking device of claim 33, wherein the electronic timer includes a memory for storing the count value.